Amdt. dated August 11, 2008

Reply to Office Action of June 3, 2008

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method comprising: stalling an attempt to reference an object; and determining whether an attempter that originated said attempt is authorized to access said object, wherein upon a determination that said attempter is authorized to access said object, said method further comprising saving at least part of said object;

stalling an attempt to release said object; and

determining whether said object has changed, wherein upon
a determination that said object has changed, said method
further comprising determining if said attempter is authorized
to change said object.

- 2. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein upon a determination that said attempter is authorized to access said object, said method further comprising releasing said attempt.
- 3. (Original) The method of Claim 2 wherein upon said releasing said attempt, said method further comprising determining if access is granted using an access control list.
 - 4. (Canceled)
- 5. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein upon a determination that said attempter is not authorized to access said object, said method further comprising denying said attempt.

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- 6. (Original) The method of Claim 1 further comprising hooking object functionality.
- 7. (Original) The method of Claim 6 wherein said object functionality comprises functionality associated with creating, modifying, or closing said object.
- 8. (Original) The method of Claim 6 wherein said hooking object functionality comprises hooking a user mode library.
- 9. (Original) The method of Claim 6 wherein said hooking object functionality comprises hooking a system call table.
- 10. (Original) The method of Claim 6 wherein said hooking object functionality comprises hooking an object manager.

11-12. (Canceled)

- 13. (Original) The method of Claim 6 wherein said hooking object functionality comprises hooking object type procedures.
- 14. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 further comprising determining whether said attempt to reference an object has occurred.

15-16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 16-1 wherein upon a determination that said object has not changed, said method further comprising releasing said attempt to release said object.

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18. (Canceled)

- 19. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 18-1 wherein upon a determination that said attempter is authorized to change said object, said method further comprising releasing said attempt to release said object.
- 20. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 18-1 wherein upon a determination that said attempter is not authorized to change said object, said method further comprising restoring said object.
- 21. (Original) The method of Claim 20 wherein said restoring comprises replacing at least part of said object with a saved at least part of said object.
- 22. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

stalling an attempt to release said object originating
from said attempter;

determining that said object has been changed by said
attempter;

determining that said attempter did not have authority to change said object;

restoring said object comprising:

restoring a restricted change to said object made by said attempter, wherein said attempted is not authorized to make said restricted change; and

allowing a permitted change to said object made by said attempter, wherein said attempted is authorized to make said permitted change; and releasing said attempt.

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- 23. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 22-1 wherein said attempter is a user of a computer system.
- 24. (Currently amended) The method of Claim $\frac{22}{1}$ wherein said attempter is a process on a computer system.
- 25. (Original) The method of Claim 24 wherein said process is a kernel mode process.

26-34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently amended) A system comprising:

a memory;

- a means for stalling an attempt to reference an object;
- a means for determining whether an attempter that originated said attempt is authorized to access said object; and
- a means for saving at least part of said object upon a determination that said attempter is authorized to access said object;
- a means for stalling an attempt to release said object;
 a means for determining whether said object has changed;
 and
- a means for determining if said attempter is authorized to change said object upon a determination that said object has changed.
- 36. (Currently amended) A computer-program product comprising a tangible computer-readable storage medium containing computer program code comprising:
- a behavior blocking and monitoring application for stalling an attempt to reference an object; and
- said behavior blocking and monitoring application further for determining whether an attempter that originated said

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attempt is authorized to access said object, wherein upon a determination that said attempter is authorized to access said object, said behavior blocking and monitoring application further for saving at least part of said object;

said behavior blocking and monitoring application further for stalling an attempt to release said object; and

said behavior blocking and monitoring application further for determining whether said object has changed, wherein upon a determination that said object has changed, said behavior blocking and monitoring application further for determining if said attempter is authorized to change said object.

- 37. (Currently amended) A computer system comprising:
- a memory having stored therein a behavior blocking and monitoring application; and

a processor coupled to said memory, wherein execution of said behavior blocking and monitoring application generates a method comprising:

stalling an attempt to reference an object; and determining whether an attempter that originated said attempt is authorized to access said object, wherein upon a determination that said attempter is authorized to access said object, said method further comprising saving at least part of said object;

stalling an attempt to release said object; and
determining whether said object has changed, wherein upon
a determination that said object has changed, said method
further comprising determining if said attempter is authorized
to change said object.